

Civil Air Patrol Fatalities

1941 – Present



Researched and compiled by Maj Seth Hudson
With additional input from Lt Col Axel Ostling and Col Frank Blazich

Criteria

To be included as a Civil Air Patrol fatality from 1941 to Present, one must be:

1. A Civil Air Patrol member who died:
 - a. While serving as a CAP member engaged in a CAP activity, or
 - b. As a result of injuries received while serving as a CAP member engaged in a CAP activity.

or

2. A U.S. Air Force member who died:
 - a. While assigned to CAP duties and engaged in a CAP activity, or
 - b. As a result of injuries received while assigned to CAP duties and engaged in a CAP activity.

Notes

- CAP members who died outside of CAP activities are not eligible for inclusion. Example: A CAP member killed while driving home from a CAP activity is not eligible for inclusion.

- The existence of an “assigned mission” is not required for inclusion, as “mission” designations have not been consistent throughout CAP history. Example: A CAP member killed while serving on a CAP search team searching for a lost person, without a U.S. Air Force “mission” designation, is eligible for inclusion.

- CAP members who died while serving in a role other than that of a CAP member, regardless of the activity, are not eligible for inclusion. Example: An individual killed during a search and rescue activity while serving as a firefighter, who also happened to be a CAP member, is not eligible for inclusion.

- Qualification, or lack thereof, for any insurance or benefits due to circumstances of a member’s death does not affect a member’s inclusion. Example: A CAP member killed while serving as a CAP member engaged in a CAP activity, who is denied benefits due to benefit criteria, is eligible for inclusion.

- U.S. Air Force members who died outside of CAP activities are not eligible for inclusion. Example: A U.S. Air Force Liaison Officer to CAP killed in training not related to CAP is not eligible for inclusion.

- U.S. Air Force members who died while not assigned to CAP duties, regardless of the activity, are not eligible for inclusion. Example: A U.S. Air Force member, assigned to an airlift unit, killed while performing a CAP orientation flight is not eligible for inclusion.

Cover Image

Gold Star Banner made for the mother of 1st Lt Margaret J. Bartholomew, killed during a courier station ferry flight, 18 October 1942. Image courtesy of Mr. Charles R. Heath, II.

World War II

Coastal Patrol

Rank/Name	Hometown	Base	Date
1st Lt Charles E. Shelfus	Columbus, OH	CP-2	21 July 1942
1st Lt Charles W. Andrews	Springfield, OH	CP-14	30 October 1942
1st Lt Lester E. Milkey	Sandusky, OH	CP-14	30 October 1942
1st Lt Alfred H. Koym	Rosenberg, TX	CP-10	11 November 1942
1st Lt James C. Taylor	Baton Rouge, LA	CP-10	11 November 1942
1st Lt Guy T. Cherry, Jr.	Kinston, NC	CP-21	16 November 1942
1st Lt John H. Dean	Fort Worth, TX	CP-10	16 November 1942
1st Lt Robert D. Ward	Dallas, TX	CP-10	16 November 1942
1st Lt Frank M. Cook	Concord, NC	CP-16	21 December 1942
1st Lt Julian L. Cooper	Nashville, NC	CP-16	21 December 1942
1st Lt Curtis P. Black	North Olmsted, OH	CP-14	4 January 1943
1st Lt Alvie T. Vaughen	Galion, OH	CP-14	4 January 1943
1st Lt Welles L. Bishop	Meriden, CT	CP-20	2 February 1943
1st Lt William B. Hites	Jamestown, NY	CP-20	2 February 1943
2d Lt Drew L. King	Spartanburg, SC	CP-8	9 February 1943
2d Lt Clarence L. Rawls	Charleston, SC	CP-8	9 February 1943
2d Lt Martin E. Coughlin	Kansas City, MO	CP-11	26 February 1943
1st Lt Paul W. Davis	St. Louis, MO	CP-11	26 February 1943
1st Lt Harold O. Swift	Stanton, DE	CP-2	6 March 1943
1st Lt Delmont B. Garrett	Media, PA	CP-2	19 March 1943
2d Lt Paul D. Towne	Peoria, IL	CP-2	19 March 1943
2d Lt Donald C. Ferner	Tulsa, OK	CP-14	3 April 1943
1st Lt Gerald G. Owen	West Farmington, OH	CP-14	3 April 1943
1st Lt Ben Berger	Denver, CO	CP-1	25 April 1943
Capt Harry L. Lundquist	Gastonia, NC	CP-21	27 June 1943
FO David S. Williams	Wallace, NC	CP-21	27 June 1943

Southern Liaison Patrol

Rank/Name	Hometown	Base	Date
FO Bayard S. Henderson	Lancaster, CA	SLP-1	17 January 1944
2d Lt Harry M. Hewitt	Junction City, OR	SLP-1	17 January 1944

Courier Service

Rank/Name	Hometown	Wing	Date
2d Lt Carl A. Nelson	Salt Lake City, UT	Utah	20 March 1943
2d Lt George W. Darling	Pratt, KS	Colorado	11 July 1943
2d Lt Andre E. Maye	Botsford, CT	Connecticut	14 September 1943
Capt Harry A. Maughan	Walla Walla, WA	Colorado	16 October 1943
1st Lt Margaret J. Bartholomew	Cincinnati, OH	Ohio	18 October 1943
2d Lt Meriwether J. Purdy	Cambridge, OH	Illinois	13 January 1944
2d Lt Kenneth M. Wilkinson	Ashville, KS	Kansas	29 January 1944
2d Lt I. Richard Mastin	Wichita, KS	Kansas	19 February 1944

Tow Target and Tracking Service

Rank/Name	Hometown	Base	Date
2d Lt Roy G. Paite	Philadelphia, PA	Flushing, NY	13 May 1942
2d Lt Clarence J. Parnell	Chester, VA	Langley Field, VA	22 January 1943
1st Lt Robert A. Hanmer, USAAF	Keysville, VA	Flushing, NY	18 October 1943
Capt Gordon M. Pyle	New York, NY	Flushing, NY	18 October 1943
FO Norman L. Buckey	Washington, DC	TTU-21	22 January 1944
1st Lt Alfred C. Kendrick	Gastonia, NC	TTU-21	22 January 1944
Capt Raoul E. Souliere	Biddeford, ME	TTU-22	25 July 1944
Capt Clifton K. Hyatt	Miami, FL	TTU-7	20 December 1944

Missing Aircraft Search

Rank/Name	Hometown	Wing	Date
Cpl Bruce W. Flegal	Roswell, NM	New Mexico	12 March 1944
2d Lt Harry C. Mulroy	Roswell, NM	New Mexico	12 March 1944
Sgt Keith Clasby	Colorado Springs, CO	Colorado	7 April 1944
Capt William L. Schuth	Colorado Springs, CO	Colorado	7 April 1944
Capt Howard W. Armstrong	Redwood City, CA	California	23 March 1945
Lt James W. Wooldridge	San Francisco, CA	California	23 March 1945

Operation of L-Type Aircraft on CAP Cadet Program

Rank/Name	Hometown	Wing	Date
Lt Melvin L. Alspaugh	Belle Glade, FL	Florida	23 February 1944
Lt William B. Haier	Minneapolis, MN	Minnesota	30 April 1944
Capt George J. Main	Minneapolis, MN	Minnesota	30 April 1944
Maj Kenneth E. Morey	Adrian, MI	Michigan	14 May 1944
Marvin Aaron (potential cadet)	Philadelphia, PA	Pennsylvania	23 June 1944
2d Lt Charles R. Hoser	Norristown, PA	Pennsylvania	23 June 1944
Lt John Wallace	Caney, KS	Kansas	29 April 1945
Capt Irvin S. Wemmer	Caney, KS	Kansas	29 April 1945

Miscellaneous Missions

Rank/Name	Hometown	Mission	Date
Anton L. Mavec (senior member)	Euclid, OH	Training Flight	18 October 1942
Lt Edward M. Early, Sr.	Dover, OH	War Bond Campaign	23 January 1943
Lt Adam L. Wendling	Dover, OH	War Bond Campaign	23 January 1943
Lt John T. Burke	Fort Worth, TX	Flight for Army	10 June 1943
2d Lt Dayton C. Davis	Cleveland, OH	War Bond Campaign	7 September 1943
Sgt Frederick P. Streisel	Cleveland, OH	War Bond Campaign	7 September 1943
1st Lt Frederick S. Englert	New Orleans, LA	Simulated Bombing	16 September 1943
Cadet Leslie E. O'Brien	Kittery Point, ME	Airport Staffing	7 May 1944
2d Lt Dorr C. Walker	Detroit, MI	Parachute Jump	16 July 1944
Sgt. George R. Stubblefield	Waterloo, NY	Recruiting Drive	6 August 1944
C/SSgt James W. Taylor	Claymont, DE	Summer Encampment	23 August 1944
2d Lt Irwin T. Lawson	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	Training Flight	10 August 1945

Since World War II

1940s

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
Prob. Cadet Elizabeth "Betty" Ann Clem	Virginia Wing	16 June 1946
Col Frank E. Dawson	North Carolina Wing	10 November 1946
Capt William E. Merck	North Carolina Wing	10 November 1946
Brig Gen Earle L. Johnson, USAAF	CAP National Commander	16 February 1947
WO Glen E. Cooper	California Wing	27 April 1947
Lt Walter S. Litherland	California Wing	27 April 1947
Col George A. Stone	Chairman of the CAP Board (Ohio Wing)	20 August 1948
Capt Harry L. King, USAF	USAF Liaison Officer	20 August 1948
Cadet Walter Kyle Chapman, Jr.	Texas Wing	12 September 1948
WO John C. Huff	Nebraska Wing	2 February 1949
William F. O'Brien	Nebraska Wing	2 February 1949

1950s

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
Maj John D. Schindler, Jr.	Wisconsin Wing	4 March 1950
Col Ben J. Moeller	Wisconsin Wing	4 March 1950
Maj Milton H. Bender	Wisconsin Wing	4 March 1950
Chris Rothrock	Washington Wing	10 September 1950
Robert E. McNeal	Washington Wing	10 September 1950
Raymond E. Vermillion	Washington Wing	10 September 1950
Anton C. DeLateur	Washington Wing	10 September 1950
Col James R. Barnett	South Dakota Wing	24 September 1950
1st Lt Duane L. Reeve	South Dakota Wing	24 September 1950
1st Lt Oliver A. Singleton, Jr., USAF	USAF Liaison Officer	24 September 1950
MSgt Russell W. Fewell	California Wing	10 March 1951
Pvt Peter J. Bessolo	California Wing	10 March 1951
Leo J. Lyle	California Wing	3 June 1951
Cadet James R. Collins	California Wing	22 June 1951
Ernest J. Schmidt	Arizona Wing	15 July 1951
Roscoe E. Wilson	Arizona Wing	15 July 1951
John Henry Macy	Florida Wing	27 November 1951
1st Lt George C. Jaynes	California Wing	15 February 1953
Capt Lloyd E. Goodheart	California Wing	15 February 1953
Lt George M. Brown	New York Wing	11 May 1953
Lt Col A. Vincen McKay	Utah Wing	27 June 1953
Lt Col John D. Ensign	Utah Wing	27 June 1953
Capt Edward B. Atkinson	California Wing	1 April 1954
1st Lt Donald W. Schmid	California Wing	1 April 1954
Capt Anthony J. Synodinos	Maryland Wing	6 April 1954
Chap (1st Lt) Edward G. Conrad	Maryland Wing	6 April 1954
SSgt Russell F. Boyer	California Wing	27 July 1954
Leroy J. Pearl	California Wing	27 July 1954
Sgt John D. Anastasia	California Wing	13 February 1955
Prov. Member Bud R. Jones	California Wing	13 February 1955
Patrick C. Stapleton	New York Wing	24 July 1955
Lt Myrtle Jan G. Kirby	California Wing	22 Aug 1955
Frank Caporali	Michigan Wing	11 September 1955
Cadet Daniel R. Butler	Michigan Wing	11 September 1955
A. Wayne Beaves	Utah Wing	20 May 1956
Wayne T. Gregson	Utah Wing	20 May 1956

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
Maj William A. Hamilton	West Virginia Wing	7 September 1958
Capt Marjorie L. Hamilton	West Virginia Wing	7 September 1958
Lt Col Paul D. Weller	Colorado Wing	1959
SSgt Fred J. LaVine	Colorado Wing	24 July 1959
Cadet/ Lt Norman W. Wilbarger	Colorado Wing	27 July 1959
Cadet/ MSgt Darrel L. White	Colorado Wing	27 July 1959

1960s

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
1st Lt Ray V. Case	Utah Wing	17 September 1960
2d Lt Gerald B. Hillstead	Utah Wing	17 September 1960
1st Lt Charles J. Hammerer	Delaware Wing	8 October 1961
Melvin G. Morrill	Utah Wing	10 January 1962
Terry G. Courtright	Utah Wing	10 January 1962
Lt Col Alfred C. Nowitsky	Virginia Wing	3 June 1962
Valton L.V. Howard	Arizona Wing	10 May 1962
Olof C. E. "Chuck" Johansson	Arizona Wing	10 May 1962
Lt Kenneth B. Combs	Utah Wing	4 May 1963
Lt Col Scott A. Pfohl	Utah Wing	4 May 1963
Lt Col Jacques Segal	New York Wing	16 November 1963
Lt Col Clifford M. Johnson	New York Wing	16 November 1963
Capt William M. "Billy" Gibson	New York Wing	16 November 1963
Maj Ervin A. "Bunny" Hadley	California Wing	26 December 1964
Maj M. L. Perry	New Mexico Wing	9 May 1965
ElMyrrh L. Cox	Utah Wing	13 June 1965
James R. Miles	Utah Wing	13 June 1965
James L. Middleton, Sr.	Utah Wing	13 June 1965
Lt Irvin J. George	New Mexico Wing	19 June 1965
Maj William Sells	Michigan Wing	14 January 1967
Rodney Lewis	Michigan Wing	14 January 1967
Eva House	Michigan Wing	14 January 1967
Maj Delbert G. Rokes	California Wing	16 April 1967
Capt Charles R. Norris	California Wing	16 April 1967
2d Lt Lana R. Norris	California Wing	16 April 1967
Cadet/ Capt Ronald L. Hankins	California Wing	16 April 1967
Clarence D. "Dee" Carroll, III	Texas Wing	13 July 1968
Clyde L. Whistler	Texas Wing	13 July 1968
Cadet Jack R. Whistler	Texas Wing	13 July 1968
Cadet Walter E. "Dodie" Shoemaker	Texas Wing	13 July 1968
CWO James R. Patterson	California Wing	13 July 1969
Charles E. Behymer	California Wing	13 July 1969

1970s

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
Jon E. Kramer	California Wing	10 May 1970
Cadet James Gillie Oppel	Oregon Wing	14 June 1970
David A. Parks	Arizona Wing	10 June 1973
1st Lt Joseph L. Herbert	Virginia Wing	18 October 1975
Dorothy A. Tuller	Virginia Wing	5 March 1977
Cadet Edwin Guevara	New York Wing	22 May 1977
SM Robert A. Bolner	Texas Wing	10 May 1978
Capt Charles M. Dolan, Jr	Texas Wing	10 May 1978
SM Sheldon C.T. Randall, III	Texas Wing	10 May 1978

1980s

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
Cadet/ Lt Col David R. Lotarski	Illinois Wing	18 July 1980
Jack Schweiker	New Jersey Wing	5 October 1980
Kay N. Ahlstrom	Utah Wing	27 June 1981
Harold F. Steab	Utah Wing	27 June 1981
Robert L. Tarwater	California Wing	26 September 1982
Clifford D. Van Meter	California Wing	26 September 1982
Capt Phyllis E. Thompson	Oregon Wing	26 May 1985
Capt Charles L. Ruckman	Oregon Wing	26 May 1985
Lt Kenneth R. Schappert	Oregon Wing	16 May 1985
James E. Saalman	Washington Wing	22 June 1985
Robert R. Haley, III	Washington Wing	22 June 1985
Richard W. Thomas	Washington Wing	22 June 1985
Kathleen A. Harper	Washington Wing	23 June 1985
E. Wayne McKnight	Florida Wing	13 August 1989
Cadet Shawn O. Kelley	Florida Wing	13 August 1989
Cadet Joseph P. Flythe, II	Florida Wing	13 August 1989
Cadet Damian Weber	Florida Wing	13 August 1989

1990s

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
Lt Col Thomas H. Frondorf	Alabama Wing	9 April 1990
Capt Marvin C. "Chuck" Moffett	Alabama Wing	9 April 1990
SM Helen I. Premetz	Florida Wing	24 April 1990
Maj Clayton A. Reid	Florida Wing	2 October 1991
Maj James M. Matthews	Florida Wing	2 October 1991
Capt Robert A. Leman	California Wing	14 January 1995
1st Lt Brian M. Perkin	California Wing	14 January 1995
1st Lt James C. Spadafore	California Wing	14 January 1995
Capt James M. Powell	Washington Wing	12 April 1995
Capt Jerilyn A. Cross	Arkansas Wing	24 February 1996
SM Rob Roy D. Godwin	Arkansas Wing	24 February 1996
SM James R. Dalton	Arkansas Wing	24 February 1996
Lt Col Frederick L. Nettell	California Wing	3 November 1997
Capt Jess Cenicerros	California Wing	3 November 1997
Lee R. Shaffer	Indiana Wing	25 December 1998

2000s

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
Lt Anthony S. Futrell	North Carolina Wing	17 July 2002
1st Lt Robert S. Kennedy	North Carolina Wing	17 July 2002
Frederick M. Vatcher	Tennessee Wing	10 August 2002
Charles E. "Chuck" Hall, Jr.	Tennessee Wing	10 August 2002
Gerald W. McLinn, Jr.	Tennessee Wing	10 August 2002
Capt Leonard L. Weekley	California Wing	21 November 2003
2d Lt Donald A. Munroe	California Wing	21 November 2003
Lt Col James H. Henderson	Wyoming Wing	20 August 2007
Capt Patricia A. Larson	Wyoming Wing	20 August 2007
SM James R. Meyer, II	Wyoming Wing	20 August 2007
Col Dion E. DeCamp	Nevada Wing	8 November 2007
Col Edwin W. Lewis, Jr.	Pacific Region	8 November 2007

2010s

Rank/Name	Base/Unit	Date
Lt Col J. Howard Collins	Florida Wing	12 October 2014
Maj David R. Mauritson	Alabama Wing	1 February 2016
2d Lt Phil J. Dryden	Alabama Wing	1 February 2016